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# AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION

LEGAL, ECONOMIC, AND ORGANIZATION INFORMATION COLLECTED BY THE DIVISION OF COOPERATIVE MARKETING,  
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WASHINGTON, D. C.

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## GAINS MADE BY COOPERATIVES IN TWELVE YEARS

A gain in volume of business of over 100 per cent was made by 824 cooperative associations reporting to the U. S. Department of Agriculture in 1913 and again in 1925. The exact amount of business reported by the 824 associations was \$81,647,000 for 1913 and \$164,284,000 by the identical associations for 1925.

The increase is due in part to increased membership per association, to increased business per member, and to a higher price level in some commodities in 1925 than in 1913.

Over one-half of the 824 associations reporting for the two periods were located in the West North Central group of states. The increase for this group was 94 per cent. The percentage gain for 51 associations in the three Pacific Coast States was 174 and for 14 associations in the South Atlantic States, stretching from Delaware to Florida, was 133 per cent.

The number of associations reporting in a number of the leading cooperative states and the percentage increase for each is as follows: California, 23 associations, 355 per cent; Florida, 9 associations, 285 per cent; Missouri, 18 associations, 258 per cent; Minnesota, 246 associations, 166 per cent; Wisconsin, 87 associations, 160 per cent; Michigan, 25 associations, 144 per cent; Iowa, 82 associations, 37 per cent; New York, 10 associations, 57 per cent; Washington, 25 associations, 19 per cent.

Six California associations marketing nuts made a percentage increase of 509 per cent. Associations handling dairy products show a gain of 186 per cent for the twelve-year period; fruit and vegetable associations, 149 per cent; livestock shipping associations, 75 per cent, and grain marketing associations, 40 per cent.

The average amount of business per association increased from \$99,086 in 1913 to \$199,373 in 1925. Increases in averages for some of the states were: Minnesota, from \$59,121 to \$157,479; New York, \$88,000 to \$138,400; Iowa, \$145,695 to \$199,280; Washington, \$164,320 to \$195,240; California, \$149,652 to \$680,390.

The increases in business per association for some of the commodity groups were: Dairy products, \$59,931 to \$171,418; fruits and vegetables, \$106,000 to \$264,256; livestock, \$128,000 to \$224,615; grain, \$140,876 to \$217,318.

### THREE-YEAR RECORD BY WESTERN NEW YORK FRUIT GROWERS

Gross sales by the Western New York Fruit Growers' Cooperative Packing Association, Inc., Rochester, for the year ending May 31, 1926, were \$610,729, compared with \$607,913 for the preceding year and \$779,600 for the 1923-24 season. Fruits were the principal products handled during the 1925-26 season although small quantities of cabbage and onions were also marketed. The amounts distributable to members for the three seasons were: 1923-24, \$512,514; 1924-25, \$459,274; 1925-26, \$407,056. This association serves over 30 member-units, furnishing service in the standardization of products, accounting service and sales service.

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### CALIFORNIA FIG GROWERS MERCHANDISING PRODUCTS

The manager of the California Peach and Fig Growers' Association, Fresno, in a report made at the close of the first business year of the reorganized association reviews the progress made. The two main objectives of the management were to create "a going concern" and to satisfy the membership that such was being accomplished. Regarding the policy of the management in dealing with the members of the association, the manager states, "It has always been my policy to make available all information of any nature that does not in any way jeopardize this institution, at the same time reserving the right to make no promises that cannot be kept."

Early in the business year arrangements were made for an adequate amount of credit on terms which the management considers as favorable as any extended to a cooperative marketing organization. Economies were obtained by closing receiving stations which did not handle enough fruit to justify their continuance. Four departments were created for handling the business. These were membership service, sales supervision, accounting and manufacturing.

During the year two new packs were developed and put upon the market. These were the Blue Ribbon Pressed Pack and the White Ribbon Packet. Preparatory to the coming season a new package for cooking figs has been developed. It is a three pound bag with a handle. The lettering on the bag is in orange and blue. Each bag is tightly sealed to prevent drying out, is dust proof, and the contents are guaranteed against infestation. There is placed in each bag carefully tested recipes for using figs in the kitchen. It is the purpose of this new pack to provide a fruit that can be used throughout the entire year.

Considerable effort is made by the management to stress the value of quality fruit. During the current season the president and manager of the association are holding meetings with the growers in the producing sections that the efforts of management and growers may be coordinated. (See Agricultural Cooperation, March 15, 1926, p. 112.)

### SOWEGA MELONS SOLD IN THIRTY STATES

Two thousand one hundred and seven cars of watermelons were shipped by the Sowega Melon Growers' Association, Adel, Ga., during the season just closed. These melons were sent to 249 markets in 30 states, the District of Columbia, and three Canadian provinces. Three cities received over one hundred cars each and three other cities, over 50 cars each. These cities were New York, 184 cars; Chicago, 115 cars; Buffalo, 113 cars; Pittsburgh, 82; Philadelphia, 58; and Brooklyn, 56.

Nearly one-half of all cars shipped were loaded with melons with an average weight of 26 and 28 pounds. Only a few of the cars had an average weight under 24 pounds or over 34 pounds.

Shipments in previous years by the association and its predecessor, the Southwest Georgia Watermelon Growers' Association, were as follows: 1923, 615 cars; 1924, 3,584 cars; 1925, 1,827 cars.

The association has a membership of about 2,000. A report of the association's activities during the 1925 season will be found in Agricultural Cooperation for November 9, 1925, page 464.

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### OHIO VEGETABLE ASSOCIATION FAVORS SELECTED MEMBERSHIP

Attention is being given by the board of directors of the Marietta Truck Growers' Association, Waterford, Ohio, to the subject of a selected membership. At a recent meeting of the board, voice was given to the opinion that no applications be accepted where there is any doubt of the willingness of the applicant to put up an honest pack. Members who are careless in the matter of delivering quality products will be urged to take advantage of the withdrawal clause in the continuous contract whereby a member can serve his connection with the association at the close of any shipping season.

The first fifty-one pools for this season represented 895 car loads of produce while the first fifty-one pools last year included but 626 cars. Shipments so far this season have been sold in 62 carlot markets in 14 states. Forty-nine cars of truck and vegetables have been shipped to Florida and 111 cars to New York City. Total shipments for the 1925 season amounted to 678 cars.

The association supplies the needs of its members as well as marketing their produce. Plans are now being made to buy peaches in quantity. It is proposed to watch the market and purchase when this fruit is of good quality and abundant.

Over 1,500 members and friends of members attended the recently held annual picnic of the association. A monthly paper is published by the management that the members of the association may be kept advised regarding the business of their association.

### EIGHTH REPORT FOR MICHIGAN POTATO PRODUCERS

Delegates from 64 of the member-units of the Michigan Potato Growers' Exchange, Cadillac, Mich., attended the eighth annual meeting held August 18 and 19, 1926. Reports made at the meeting covered both the selling and buying activities of the association. A total of 2,982½ cars of potatoes were marketed for 74 local units. One local shipped 212 cars, a second, 207 and a third, 151. Eleven locals shipped more than 75 cars each, and 39 locals, 25 or more cars each. Over twenty per cent of the potatoes shipped in the state were handled by the Exchange according to the report of the management.

The relative importance of the 1925 shipments through the Exchange as compared with previous years is shown in the following table:

Season	Potatoes handled		Ratio of Exchange shipments to total state shipments/a
	Number of cars	Relative	
			(Per cent)
1918-19	2,118	100	19
1919-20	2,158	102	18
1920-21	3,250	153	19
1921-22	2,439	115	16
1922-23	2,922	138	15
1923-24	3,122	147	15
1924-25	2,867	135	17
1925-26	2,982½	141	21

/a As reported by the Exchange.

During the year large quantities of bags, tags, twine and spraying material were purchased for the local units. Three grading machines, 13 spraying machines and 13 car stoves were also purchased. Arrangements were made to carry potato bags and twine in stock so that the needs of the locals might be quickly supplied.

Over 48,000 bushels of certified seed potatoes were handled through the seed department. The pool prices for this stock were: Green Mountains, \$3.16 a bushel; Irish Cobblers, \$3.15; Russet Rurals, \$2.43; White Rurals, \$2.19.

During the last business year the auditing department of the Exchange made audits for 52 local units, and installed accounting systems for 15 units. This department is maintained to furnish at cost competent auditing service to member-units, to prepare income and federal tax statements; to install suitable accounting systems and to bring about more uniform accounting methods for the benefit of the membership.

Recently the Exchange established its own freight claim department as a means of rendering more service to its local units.

COLORADO WHEAT POOL ADVANCING SEVENTY CENTS

Seventy cents a bushel is the figure decided upon by the directors of the Colorado Wheat Growers' Association, Denver, as the amount of the first advance on 1926 wheat, basis No. 2 or better. Checks for the advances are mailed on receipt of reports from the receiving elevators.

Deliveries of wheat to the pool began early in July. Under date of August 20 the management reported that the receipts to that date were the equal of those to the same date last year. While grain is not being received from as many growers as a year ago, the deliveries per capita are larger. This is said to be due to the fact that considerable selecting was done in signing members for the new marketing period. In the opinion of the management only growers who understand the pool method of marketing are likely to take advantage fully of the facilities of the association. Hence, an effort is being made to confine the membership of the organization in the future strictly to grain growers who are believers in the co-operative method of marketing.

This season, for the first time, the Colorado association has received wheat from the western slope of the Rocky Mountains.

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SASKATCHEWAN COARSE GRAINS POOL

Checks in final settlement of the 1925-26 coarse grains pool operated by the Saskatchewan Cooperative Wheat Producers, Ltd., Regina, Sask., were sent out during the latter part of August. The prices on which settlements were made, based on the top grades, were: Oats, 47½ cents a bushel; barley, 60½ cents; flax, \$2.10; rye, 88½ cents. From these figures were deducted freight to terminal market, carrying charges of .81 cents a bushel and operating charges of .49 cents a bushel or a total of 1.3 cents a bushel for marketing service. There was also deducted 1 cent a bushel for the elevator reserve and 1 per cent of settlement price for the commercial reserve. These reserves furnish the capital used in the enterprise and are entered on the books of the association as credits to the growers from whom the deductions are made.

Operations were commenced in the coarse grains pool September 12, 1925. There was under contract at that time 31,452 growers who reported grain acreage as follows: Oats, 1,534,371 acres; barley, 299,905; flax, 299,903; rye, 65,325. These acreages were estimated as bearing the following ratios to the total acreages of the several grains in the province: Oats, 30 per cent; barley, 28 per cent; flax, 30 per cent; rye, 25 per cent.

There was an increase in membership during the year of 4,934, the total number of members on August 19, 1926, being 36,386.

### ALBERTA WHEAT POOL ACQUIRING ELEVATORS

At the annual meeting of the Alberta Cooperative Wheat Producers, Ltd., held at Calgary, Alberta, August 4, 5 and 6, the management of this organization was directed to acquire elevator facilities as soon as possible. A deduction of 2 cents a bushel from the returns for the 1925 wheat was authorized for an elevator reserve. This deduction will provide nearly \$1,000,000. Already the association controls 30 country elevators and the plans are practically completed for ten additional elevators. Consideration is being given to acquiring ownership in terminal elevator facilities on the Pacific Coast. At present an elevator at Prince Rupert is under lease to the association.

It was also decided at the annual meeting that a coarse grains contract be prepared and copies submitted to the membership and the board of directors was given authority to establish a coarse grains pool as soon as enough acreage is signed up.

During the 1925-26 year, 6,058 new members were received. The total membership at the close of the year was 36,478, compared with 31,454 at the close of the second year, 29,440 at the close of the first year and 25,719 at the beginning of the first year. There is now approximately 3,500,000 acres under contract to the organization. This is over 60 per cent of the total wheat acreage of the province. The average acreage per contract is reported as 95.77 acres.

The quantities of wheat marketed since the organization began functioning October 29, 1923, are given in the various reports as follows:

Season	Bushels handled	Sales
1923-24	34,222,833	\$37,000,000
1924-25	23,035,135	35,000,000
1925-26	45,100,000	-----

In an effort to develop further a demand for Canadian wheat the president of the association has been sent to Japan and China. With the assistance of a representative of the central selling agency for the three provincial pools he will collect first-hand information regarding possibilities of increased wheat sales in these countries. Later he goes to Australia in response to a request from the wheat growers of that country.

The by-laws of the association have been amended so as to change the time for holding the annual meetings from August to November. This change will permit the presentation of completed annual reports. The next meeting will be held in November of 1927.

In order to handle satisfactorily its rapidly developing export business from the Pacific Coast the association has obtained incorporation in British Columbia, in addition to its incorporation in Alberta.

### MANITOBA POOL ELEVATORS REPORT A SURPLUS

Eight country elevators operated by a subsidiary of the Manitoba Cooperative Wheat Producers, Ltd., show net earnings for the 1925-26 season of \$38,781. After allowing 7 per cent interest on the investment of \$97,097, and 5 per cent for depreciation, the surplus was \$28,278. These elevators handled 1,366,036 bushels of grain, an average of 170,000 bushels each. They operated upon a charge of  $2\frac{1}{3}$  cents a bushel and did not take any spread on street grain.

Twenty-two additional elevators have been acquired for the coming season. Five of these were leased and the others built. Regarding the elevator problem the directors in their annual report commented as follows:

Many of the elevators that the pool is being invited to purchase do not come up to our standards. They were built to give a profit to the owners rather than to give service to the farmers. Our object is to give service at the minimum of cost and we find few of the existing elevators built or equipped to enable us to give the service we want to give.

For the second time the delegates to the annual meeting of the Wheat Producers' Association authorized the setting aside of one-twentieth of a cent a bushel as a special fund to be used for educational purposes. The directors' report contains the following:

One of the most important of the things a cooperative institution must do is the education of its employees in the principles and practices of cooperation. To this end a series of lectures was arranged last fall for the combined staffs of the Manitoba Pool, the Saskatchewan Pool, Winnipeg office, and the central selling agency.

The educational department of the Manitoba association has begun the building of a library on cooperation and social subjects, with special reference to rural problems. Already between 300 and 400 volumes have been acquired.

A resolution was passed at the annual meeting favoring the purchasing or leasing of the grain elevators in Manitoba belonging to the United Grain Growers, a farmers' organization which has been operating an elevator system for about twenty years.

Overhead expenditures of the Manitoba Wheat Pool for the 1925-26 season were reported as \$335,182 or 1.28 cents a bushel. The items making up the total are: Grain operating expenditure, .22 cents; administration and promotion, .215 cents; educational fund, .05 cents; directors' indemnities and traveling expense to board meetings, .02 cents; annual meeting, .046 cents; preliminary expenses written off, .023 cents; reserved for contingent liabilities, .027 cents; interest, insurance and storage charged by elevators, .679 cents; total, 1.28 cents.

### PAGEANT STRESSING VALUE OF DAIRY PRODUCTS

"The Masque of Beauty through the Ages" is the title of a pageant successfully given recently for four nights in succession in Philadelphia. The pageant is the creation of the Philadelphia Dairy Council and the Inter-State Milk Producers' Association, Inc., Philadelphia. With the motif "Through Health to Strength and Beauty" its purpose is to stimulate an increased consumption of dairy products.

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### MARYLAND MILK PRODUCERS ACTIVE IN BALTIMORE

About 5,000 people attended the annual meeting of the Maryland State Dairymen's Association which was held in a park August 28. At this meeting the eighth year of activity was reviewed and directors selected for the ninth year. This association is a price bargaining organization composed of about 4,000 producers supplying Baltimore with fluid milk.

Members of the association produced during the year ending July 31, 1926, 21,765,801 gallons of milk which was sold for \$6,482,164. The increase in volume of milk over the preceding year was a trifle over six per cent. Eighty-three per cent of the milk produced was sold as fluid milk and 17 per cent was sold as table cream, or for the manufacture of ice cream, condensed milk, and other products. The producers received an average price of 30.94 cents a gallon for that portion of the supply sold as fluid milk and an average price of 24.88 cents a gallon for that portion which was surplus and sold as table cream or for manufacturing purposes. The weighted average price for all the milk sold was 29.78 cents a gallon which was an increase of .29 cents over the previous year.

According to data compiled by the secretary of the association the per capita consumption of milk in Baltimore increased during the past year. It is now estimated to be .55 pints per day. The association is spending \$15,000 a year in educational work. This amount, supplemented by contributions from milk distributors is used to "impress on our consumers the vital place that dairy products should occupy in the diet."

Two field men were added to the association staff during the past year for the purpose of sampling and testing milk that there might be an accurate check on the treatment received by the member-producers delivering milk.

A reserve fund of \$400,000 and a sinking fund of \$100,000 are being built up by the association to ensure its continued existence. When the two funds have reached the amounts named, refunds from earnings will be made to the producers in proportion to the quantities of milk delivered. Refunds will be made to the contributors to the income of the association in the order in which the contributions were made, the oldest contributor receiving the first refund check.

### AN EGG MARKETING ASSOCIATION IN HAWAII

In order to get volume of business the Hawaiian Poultry Producers' Association, Honolulu, is planning a campaign for new members. So far a small number of members have carried the overhead expense of maintaining this cooperative enterprise.

Recently arrangements were made with a local sales agency to handle the eggs of the association on a flat charge of five cents a dozen up to 10,000 dozen a month, and above that quantity, four cents a dozen. Prices are to be determined by the officers of the association and eggs to be marketed under the name and label of the association.

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### SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT BY CALIFORNIA POULTRY PRODUCERS

During the first half of the current year, 336 poultry producers with 282,004 hens joined the Poultry Producers of Central California, San Francisco. During the same period the association handled 520,971 cases of eggs for which the members received \$4,078,976.

On June 30, 1926, the association did not owe one cent for borrowed capital and its reports show that there was a total of \$576,787 in the advance fund, which is maintained by a deduction from returns of one cent a dozen. Advance fund certificates amounting to \$74,990 have been redeemed since July 1.

The association began handling poultry about March 1, 1926, and by June 30, 722,660 pounds had been received for which returns amounting to \$172,718 were made to the producers.

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### MINNESOTA POULTRY TO BE MERCHANDISED

Two poultry dressing and packing plants are now being operated by the Lake Region Cooperative Egg and Poultry Exchange, St. Paul, and a third plant is being erected. These plants are at St. Paul, Minn., La Crosse, Wis., and Winnebago, Minn.

According to the plans of the management of the association the poultry after being fed, killed and dressed, will be packed in boxes containing 12 birds each and on the breast of each bird there will be placed an attractive label carrying the name of the association. Efforts will be made to develop a demand for the poultry by advertising "Lake Region Delicious Milk Fed Poultry" properly graded and packaged.

Members of the association recently received refund checks amounting to approximately \$13,000 for purchases made through the supply department. The largest check was for \$1,311 and the smallest was for seven cents.

### SOUTH CAROLINA COTTON SOLD IN FORTY-SIX POOLS

A preliminary report by the management of the South Carolina Cotton Growers' Cooperative Association, Columbia, S. C., indicates that the cost of marketing the 1925 short staple cotton handled by the association was \$6.25 a bale, made up of \$2.28 for storage and handling; \$1.72 for interest and insurance; and \$2.25 for selling. Over 92,000 bales were handled in 46 pools, the largest of which contained 8,658 bales and the smallest, one bale. Selling prices ranged from about 8 cents to over 20 cents a pound.

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### COTTON MARKETING ASSOCIATION IN CALIFORNIA

About 100 growers in Kern County, California, have formed the Producers' Marketing Company with headquarters at Wasco. The corporation is organized as a non-profit enterprise with ten thousand shares which will be sold at fifty cents each. While the plans contemplate the handling of different products it is proposed to start with the marketing of cotton. Samples of cotton are to be collected at the gins. These the association will class and staple, and it will assist the growers in marketing the various lots to the best advantage, on a commission basis. The association management proposes to keep in close touch with the mills at the cotton spinning centers, and with the buyers for export. As far as possible a direct-to-spinner business will be built up.

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### MISSISSIPPI COTTON GROWERS ADOPT NEW MARKETING PLAN

The plan of marketing for the Mississippi Farm Bureau Cotton Association, Jackson, Miss., has been changed following the adoption of amendments to the by-laws by the membership of the organization. Whereas in the past all cotton of the same grade and staple has been accounted for to producers in a single season pool, henceforth there will be a season pool and 24 semi-monthly pools for each year. Grower-members will have the right of designating in which pool any particular lot of cotton shall be placed. Returns are to be made to growers as rapidly as the various pools are closed.

The amended by-laws provide a way for the immediate putting into force of a new contract, which, for those who have signed it, replaces the irrevocable contract first employed. Under the new contract members not satisfied with the results being obtained by the association can withdraw by giving notice before the second Tuesday in May of any year.

The Association News which has been published monthly is to be issued semi-monthly hereafter that members may be kept fully advised as to the progress being made in the marketing of their cotton.

CALIFORNIA COURT GRANTS LIQUIDATED DAMAGES

On April 10, 1926, the District Court of Appeals of California decided the case of the California Prune and Apricot Growers, Inc., v. Baker et al. in favor of the association, 246 P. 1081. The association brought suit to recover liquidated damages for the failure of the defendants to deliver prunes in accordance with their contracts. The trial court decided the case in favor of the association and the defendants appealed. The defendants claimed that they were excused from delivering prunes of the 1921 crop because the association did not settle with them on or before September 1, 1921, for the prunes delivered in 1920. The court determined the soundness of this contention by construing the contracts and the following is quoted from the opinion with respect thereto:

As shown by the provisions of the contracts quoted above, the association agreed to use its best efforts to resell the prunes delivered each year for net prices higher than those paid the grower at the time of delivery, and, if successful, to pay to the latter the excess above 4 cents bulk basis per pound less the charges as provided therein, such additional payment to be made on or before September 1st in the year following delivery of the prunes. This promise was conditional, the obligation to pay by the date mentioned or at all being dependent upon the fact of resales for prices higher than the basic price. Success in this particular was not expressly made a condition precedent to the obligation of the grower to deliver the crops of subsequent years; nor, in view of the character and magnitude of the business conducted by the association, and the nature of the services rendered, could such intention reasonably be implied.

The record in the case did not show when the prunes of the 1920 crop were sold, but the association settled in full with the defendants in December, 1921, and the court said that "it is to be presumed that plaintiff's duty under the contracts was fairly and regularly performed." The defendants also claimed that the association in settling in December, 1921, for the 1920 crop of prunes made excessive and unauthorized deductions, and for this reason claimed that the association could not recover because of their failure to comply with the contract with respect to the delivery of prunes in 1921. It appeared that the defendants produced 35,605 pounds of prunes in 1921 and that they sold 19,400 pounds outside the association on September 13, 1921, delivering the remainder, or 16,205 pounds to the association in October, 1921. In view of the fact that the alleged unauthorized deductions were made in December, 1921,

while the breach of the contract by the defendants occurred in October, 1921, the courts said that "A breach of contract cannot be justified by anything the other party to the contract may have done or omitted to do afterwards; and where a breach of contract is not such as to defeat a right of action the defendant cannot plead it in bar, but must take advantage of it by proper pleading in recoupment of damages."

L. S. Hulbert.

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#### LIQUIDATED DAMAGES GRANTED IN SASKATCHEWAN

On June 21, 1926, the Court of Appeals of Saskatchewan reversed the trial court in the case of the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool v. Leon R. Zurowski and upheld the contract of the pool, thereby deciding the case in favor of the association. A majority of the court held that the pool was not operating in restraint of trade and that it was entitled to recover 25 cents per bushel as liquidated damages from the defendant for all wheat disposed of by him outside the association, or \$397.50 on account of 1,590 bushels of wheat thus disposed of by the defendant.

L. S. Hulbert.

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#### PROVISION FOR EXCHANGE OF CROP AND MARKET INFORMATION

Section 5 of the Act providing for a division of cooperative marketing deals with the exchange of crop and market information and because of this fact it is believed to be of general interest to cooperatives and is here given:

Persons engaged, as original producers of agricultural products, such as farmers, planters, ranchmen, dairy-men, nut or fruit growers, acting together in associations, corporate or otherwise, in collectively processing, preparing for market, handling, and marketing in interstate and/or foreign commerce such products of persons so engaged, may acquire, exchange, interpret, and disseminate past, present, and prospective crop, market, statistical, economic, and other similar information by direct exchange between such persons, and/or such associations or federations thereof, and/or by and through a common agent created or selected by them.

### ACTIVITIES OF FARM-LABOR EXCHANGE

Announcement has been made by the Farmer-Labor Exchange, Chicago, that the "Jim Hill" brand of apples, produced by the members of the Wenatchee District Cooperative Association, Wenatchee, Wash., will be marketed in Chicago under the union label. For several years the Exchange has been engaged in assisting the movement of farm products direct from groups of producers to members of labor unions in Chicago. The secretary reports that the Exchange has handled carlot consignments as follows: Forty car loads of watermelons from Texas; 16 car loads of vegetables from Texas; 12 cars of cabbage from Wisconsin; 8 cars of Irish potatoes from Oklahoma; 7 cars of honey from Idaho; 6 cars of con-taloupes from Arkansas; 3 cars of citrus fruit from Florida; 3 cars of butter from Kansas; and 1 car of sweet potatoes from Arkansas. In addition, many l.c.l. shipments from Florida, Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Indiana, Texas and Minnesota have been received and placed with Chicago consumers. Among the commodities handled in this way are: green peas, green peppers, egg plant, string beans, cucumbers, tomatoes, eggs, poultry, veal, maple syrup, cane syrup, pecans and apples.

Besides farm products, 20 cars of union mined coal have been handled and numerous orders placed for supplies desired by members of Chicago unions.

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### CALIFORNIA WALNUT GROWERS EXHIBIT AT SESQUICENTENNIAL

Among the exhibits at the Sesquicentennial now being held at Philadelphia is one by the California Walnut Growers Association, Los Angeles. In addition to a display of walnuts of various grades there are colored transparencies picturing the walnut industry, also one of the machines used at the various packing houses in California for individually stamping walnuts with the diamond, which is the trademark of the association. The machine on exhibition like the ones in the packing houses has a capacity of 2,000 walnuts a minute.

The purpose of the exhibit, which was arranged by the advertising department of the association, is to bring walnuts to the attention of consumers and to familiarize them with the "Diamond" trade-mark which is used on the quality products of this growers' organization.

Announcement is made by the management of the association that commencing with the coming fall two grades of walnuts under different brand names will be put upon the market. The best walnuts will be marketed under the "Diamond" brand and the second grade under the "Emerald" brand. Quality standards have been determined for both brands, also standards for sizes of which there will be six.

It is proposed to carefully grade all walnuts received both for quality and size and in the future to make returns to growers on the basis of the quality and size of nuts delivered.

### REPORTED BY THE ASSOCIATIONS

A recent report from New Zealand indicates that 374 of the 445 establishments in that country handling dairy products are cooperative.

Forty new members have been added recently to the Pacific Cooperative Wool Growers, Portland, Ore.

Nearly 500 volumes on cooperation and allied subjects are included in the library of the Franklin Cooperative Creamery Association, Minneapolis, Minn.

Announcement is made that the annual convention of the National Cooperative Milk Producers' Federation will be held in Cleveland, Ohio, November 10 and 11, 1926. Thirty farmer-controlled cooperative organizations make up the membership of the federation.

A recent report indicates that Russian consumers' cooperative associations have been instrumental in the establishment in rural sections of 79 public restaurants, 79 laundries, 453 bakeries, 953 "mother and child" welfares, 17 cooperative children's consultations and 116 children's playgrounds.

The plants and business of the Farmers' Cooperative Milk Company, Poughkeepsie, N. Y., have been taken over by the Dairymen's League Cooperative Association, Inc., on a lease and henceforth the business will be handled by the League. The local association served about 150 producers who were delivering 350 cans of milk daily.

Ten special refrigerator cars have been put into service by the Equity Union Creamery and Mercantile Exchange, Aberdeen, S. Dak. These are used in transporting butter from the creamery in South Dakota to the large city markets. Upon the sides of the cars are the words, "Quality Equity Butter, Equity Union Creameries, manufacturers."

At the annual meeting of the membership of the North Dakota Wheat Growers' Association held at Grand Forks, N. Dak., July 20, 1926, the by-laws of the organization were amended so as to permit the board of directors to cancel the contracts of members who fail to market any or all of their wheat through the organization and to expel them from membership.

Under the title "Know your own Business" a series of articles dealing with cheese factory accounting has been prepared for the Federation Guide, the house organ of the Wisconsin Cheese Producers' Federation, Plymouth, Wis. The first article appeared in the August issue of the Guide, and dealt largely with the magnitude and importance of the Wisconsin cheese industry.

A BUSINESS ANALYSIS OF A COTTON COOPERATIVE

An economic study of the Staple Cotton Cooperative Association, Greenwood, Mississippi, has been completed by the Division of Cooperative Marketing in the United States Department of Agriculture. The finished report has been published as Department Circular No. 397, and Copies may be had upon request. This is the first published report of a series of Farmers' Cooperative Business Studies undertaken by the Division of Cooperative Marketing for the purpose of studying by the case system the economics of cooperative organization and operation. These business studies of individual cooperatives involve a detailed analysis and study of the organic set-up, operating, pooling, management and merchandising practices and problems, as well as the membership relations and economic environment under which the association functions.

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SELECTED LIST OF PUBLICATIONS AND ARTICLES

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### A CORRECTION

The item entitled "Louisiana Rice Association Handled Large Crop," appearing on page 342 of Agricultural Cooperation for August 16, 1926, refers to the activities of the River Farm Bureau Rice Growers' Cooperative Association of Baton Rouge, La., and not the Louisiana Farm Bureau Rice Growers' Cooperative Association, Crowley, La., which organization has gone out of business. The third item on the same page also deals with the activities of the River Association.